



MAFF-1 RCE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Hirohiko Hirochika et al.
Application No. : 09/721,114 Confirmation No. : 2997
Orig. Filing Date : November 22, 2000
RCE Filing Date : December 12, 2002
For : NOVEL GENE INVOLVED IN BRASSINOSTEROID
RESPONSES
Group Art Unit : 1634
Examiner : Juliet C. Einsmann

New York, New York 10020
May 21, 2003

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is in response to the February 21, 2003 Office Action issued in the
above-identified application. A Response is due by May 21, 2003. Thus, this Response is
timely filed.

Kindly amend the application as follows:

EV242443331US